



Town of Arlington Community Development Block Grant
Overview of Draft Substantial Amendment
2021-2022 Program Year 47 Annual Action Plan

Town of Arlington Department of Planning and Community Development

May 19, 2022

Program Year 47 Substantial Amendment

The Town of Arlington is amending its 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan, covering the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, (Program Year 47) to reprogram economic development funds to respond to the need for additional housing improvement funds. This Executive Summary provides an explanation of the Substantial Amendment. The full Substantial Amendment can be reviewed at this link:

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/cdbg>. All changes are marked in red font (to indicate information from the original Annual Action Plan that the Substantial Amendment updates) or blue font (to reflect the new program and related information that the Substantial Amendment will enable).

Economic Development Funds

The Department of Planning and Community Development originally planned to implement a small business grant and technical assistance program during Program Year 47. These economic development programs were instead supported through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) exceeding the amount available through CDBG, leaving \$350,000 in CDBG funds to be reprogrammed.

Affordable Housing Funds

The Arlington Housing Authority's (AHA) Hauser Building, which has 144 units and is home to 177 residents, has an outdated fire alarm system in need of replacement. The project to update the system was prompted by a tragic fire in another AHA-owned building. AHA currently has over \$500,000 committed to the project from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development Formula Funding. Allocating \$350,000 to this project will enable this project to occur without a reduced scope, and will ensure a safe, suitable, and healthy living environment for Arlington senior citizens. The project meets the national objective of Low/Mod Limited Clientele, as it is a housing activity serving exclusively individuals who earn incomes below 80% of the Area Median Income. The funds provided to AHA will be in the form of a grant.

Subrecipient & Activity	2021-2022 CDBG Program Budget	Substantial Amendment	Final 2021- 2022 CDBG Program Budget	Goal Outcomes
Department of Planning and Community Development – Working Capital Grants and Technical Assistance Program	\$350,000	\$0	\$0	Original: Jobs created/retained: 7 Businesses assisted: 35 Substantial Amendment: Jobs created/retained: 0 Businesses assisted: 0
Arlington Housing Authority - Hauser Building Fire Alarm System Upgrade Project	\$0	\$350,000	\$350,000	Original: Households Assisted: 71 Rental units rehabilitated: 35 Substantial Amendment: Households Assisted: 215 Rental units rehabilitated: 179
Totals	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	

Review Process

This substantial amendment is being completed in accordance with HUD policy and with Arlington's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan. A 30-day comment period will take place, as advertised through a legal notice in the Arlington Advocate and through electronic notices shared with interested parties and the general public.

The Town will consider any comments or views of residents received in writing or by email in preparing the final Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for submission to HUD. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the Town's reasons therefore, will be attached to the change submitted to HUD.

Comments can be submitted beginning on May 19, 2022 through June 19, 2022 to Mallory Sullivan, Community Development Block Grant Administrator, at MJSullivan@town.arlington.ma.us. All comments received and the Town's responses will be included in the substantial amendment that is submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

After the Substantial Change is approved by HUD, the Town will make the document available to the public by posting on the Town's website: <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/cdbg>.